

By Senator Flores

38-00375B-11

2011584

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to massage therapy; amending s.  
3           480.041, F.S.; authorizing the Board of Massage  
4           Therapy to issue temporary permits to applicants who  
5           meet certain qualifications to practice massage  
6           therapy; providing for the expiration of temporary  
7           permits; providing limitations; amending s. 480.044,  
8           F.S.; providing for a temporary permit fee; providing  
9           an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13           Section 1. Subsection (5) is added to section 480.041,  
14 Florida Statutes, to read:

15           480.041 Massage therapists; qualifications; temporary  
16 permits; licensure; endorsement.—

17           (5) (a) The board may issue a temporary permit to practice  
18 massage therapy to an applicant who:

19           1. Graduates from a school that is accredited by an  
20 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of  
21 Education for the agency's specialization in accrediting massage  
22 therapy education.

23           2. Meets all of the qualifications for licensure under this  
24 section, except for paragraphs (1) (c), (4) (b), and (4) (c).

25           (b) If an applicant desires to practice massage therapy  
26 before becoming licensed by examination and completes a course  
27 of study at a board-approved massage school, the applicant may  
28 apply for a temporary permit in accordance with rules adopted  
29 under this chapter.

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30       (c) A temporary permit is valid for 6 months after issuance  
31 by the board or until the applicant fails the massage licensure  
32 examination or receives a massage therapist license, whichever  
33 occurs first.

34       (d) An applicant for licensure by examination who practices  
35 under a temporary permit may practice massage therapy only under  
36 the supervision of a licensed massage therapist who has a full,  
37 active, and unencumbered license.

38       Section 2. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (1) of  
39 section 480.044, Florida Statutes, to read:

40       480.044 Fees; disposition.—

41       (1) The board shall set fees according to the following  
42 schedule:

43       (m) Temporary permit fee: not to exceed \$50.

44       Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.